

CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A catheter including an end portion having a platform extending substantially radially outwardly therefrom, wherein said platform is formed of a biocompatible expandable material for expanding *in situ*.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Currently amended) The catheter according to claim 1 2, wherein said expandable material is capable of expanding two to three times the original size.
4. (Currently amended) The catheter according to claim 1 2, wherein said expandable material is a hydrophilic material.
5. (Original) The catheter according to claim 4, wherein said hydrophilic material is a hydrogel.
6. (Original) The catheter according to claim 1, wherein said platform is ring-shaped.
7. (Currently amended) A catheter for treating aneurysms, said catheter comprising: a lumen having an insertion end and an opposite end; and a radially outwardly expandable ring attached to the insertion end of the catheter, wherein said expandable ring is formed of a biocompatible expandable material.
8. (Canceled)
9. (Currently amended) The catheter according to claim 7 8, wherein said expandable material is capable of expanding two to three times the original size.

10. (Currently amended) The catheter according to claim 7 8, wherein said expandable material is a hydrophilic material.

11. (Original) The catheter according to claim 10, wherein said hydrophilic material is a hydrogel.

12. (Currently amended) An expandable ring capable of being attached to a catheter, wherein said expandable ring is formed of a biocompatible expandable material.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently amended) The expandable ring according to claim 12 13, wherein said expandable material is capable of expanding two to three times the original size.

15. (Currently amended) The expandable ring according to claim 12 13, wherein said expandable material is a hydrophilic material.

16. (Original) The expandable ring according to claim 15, wherein said hydrophilic material is a hydrogel.

17. (Original) A method of treating an aneurysm by inserting the catheter according to claim 1 into an artery in need of treatment.